



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk 860-441-6640  
Town Manager  
860-441-6630

## Meeting Minutes

### Representative Town Meeting

**Moderator Jean-Claude Ambroise, Representatives Karin Adams, Scott W. Aument, Sr., Joseph Baril, Nancy E. Barnhart, Alicia Bauer, Genevieve Cerf, Susan Chase-Hildebrand, Michael Collins, Christine Conley, Susan Deane-Shinbrot, Luanne E. DeMatto, Nancy Driscoll, Neal Gardner, Nancy E. Gilly, Patrice Granatosky, Dolores Harrell, Karen Hatcher, Keith L. Hedrick, Conrad F. Heede, Lynn Crockett Hubbard, Rosanne E. Kotowski, Jim Loughlin, Jackie Massett, Bruce A. McDermott, Roscoe Merritt, Scott Newsome, Richard J. Pasqualini, Jr., Pam Ryley, Jack Sebastian, Dana S. Semeraro, Richard Semeraro, Joan Steinfeld, Irma Streeter, Mark Svencer, Archie C. Swindell, Richard Waselik, Lori A. Watrous, Amanda L. Whewell and Ivy R. Williams**

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Wednesday, August 14, 2013

7:30 PM

Groton Senior Center

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#### REGULAR MEETING

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#### A. ROLL CALL

*Moderator Jean-Claude Ambroise called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.*

*28 members were present, and a quorum was declared.*

*The Moderator reported that Reps. Harrell, Hubbard, Sebastian, Williams, Dana Semeraro and Richard Semeraro notified the Town Clerk of their absence. He stated that Acting School Superintendent Sean McKenna is unable to attend but will provide a report at the September meeting.*

*Members Present: Moderator Ambroise, Rep. Adams, Rep. Aument, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Cerf, Rep. Collins, Rep. Conley, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gardner, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Hatcher, Rep. Hedrick, Rep. Heede, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Massett, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Pasqualini Jr., Rep. Ryley, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swindell, Rep. Waselik and Rep. Watrous*

*Members Absent: Rep. Baril, Rep. Bauer, Rep. Chase-Hildebrand, Rep. Harrell, Rep. Hubbard, Rep. Kotowski, Rep. Newsome, Rep. D. Semeraro, Rep. Sebastian, Rep. R. Semeraro, Rep. Whewell and Rep. Williams*

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Public Works Director Gary Schneider, Town Police Chief Michael Crowley, Planning Director Michael Murphy, Economic/Development Specialist Kristin Clarke, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Assistant Town Clerk Sally Whitney.*

#### B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The members observed a moment of silence followed by the Salute to the Flag led by Rep. Waselik.*

#### C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF

*A motion that the minutes be approved was made by Rep. Pasqualini, seconded by Rep. Driscoll.*

*The vote to approve the minutes carried 23 in favor, 5 abstentions. (Abstaining: Reps. DeMatto, Hatcher, Hedrick, Swindell and Streeter.)*

#### D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

*Mick O'Beirne, 32 New London Road, Mystic, spoke in opposition to the bonding ordinance for Flanders Road Utilities. He does not agree with the Town Council's decision to utilize Town resources for this project. Mr. O'Beirne stated that he does not expect sufficient development in the Flanders Road area to grow the grand list and help offset the cost to taxpayers. He noted that this is only phase one of the proposed extension of utilities along Flanders Road. He feels it is too expensive and there is no guarantee of return on this investment. He believes that the Town should reserve its bonding capability for the next phase of school facilities replacement and renovations.*

**E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

*Moderator Jean-Claude Ambroise noted that a letter was received from the Mystic & Noank Library Board thanking the RTM for continued financial support.*

*Moderator Ambroise welcomed Rep. Richard Waselik who was elected by District 6 representatives to fill the vacancy created by Rep. Ferreira's resignation. He announced that Rep. Aument will replace Rep. Ferreira as the chair of the Community Development & Services Committee.*

*The Moderator noted that he received an email from Reps. Dana and Richard Semeraro expressing their opposition to both ordinances that are on tonight's agenda for action by the RTM.*

*The Moderator noted that after Labor Day, he intends to schedule a joint meeting with the Town Council, committee chairs, and floor leaders to discuss changes to the process for budget deliberations.*

*Rep. Cerf read a communication from Wendy MacFarland, Bel-Aire Drive, Mystic, who is unable to attend. Ms. MacFarland requests that the RTM not approve the bonding ordinance for Flanders Road Utilities.*

**F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER****1. Financial report**

*Mr. Oefinger reported that the Fund Balance as of June 30, 2013 is approximately \$9.3 million; the General Contingency balance is \$350,000; the Capital Reserve balance is \$1,465,956.*

**2. Monthly briefing**

*The Town Manager highlighted various items from the Town Manager's News.*

*The Manager announced that the Groton Public Library was chosen as one of only 50 national hosts for a display commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.*

*In response to Rep. Granatosky request for access to the police study, Mr. Oefinger reported on the status. It is under review and being revised to correct misinformation contained in the first draft. The consultants have stated that the revised draft will be completed by October 1, 2013.*

**G. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

*No report.*

**H. LIAISON REPORTS**

*None.*

**I. COMMITTEE REPORTS****1. FINANCE - Chairman Granatosky**

*No meeting, no report.*

**2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES**

*No meeting, no report.*

**3. EDUCATION - Chairman Hedrick**

*No meeting, no report.*

**4. RECREATION - Chairman Streeter**

*No meeting, no report.*

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY - Chairman Pasqualini**

*Chairman Pasqualini read the minutes of the meeting held on August 14, 2013. (Minutes are attached to the permanent record.)*

*Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Pasqualini, seconded by Rep. Hedrick and so voted unanimously.*

**2013-0190**

**Adoption of Ordinance for Police Station Improvements**

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$5,345,000 FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWN OF GROTON POLICE STATION AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

Section 1. That the sum of FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,345,000) is appropriated for costs related to design and construction of improvements to the Town of Groton Police Station, including: boiler replacement; modernization of the prisoner processing and detention areas, repaving of the building parking area, structural and building envelope improvements, and upgrade of the firing range, and costs related to the financing thereof. The appropriation may be spent for design, acquisition, installation and construction costs, equipment, materials, construction management, site improvements, engineering fees, design and bidding services, testing and inspection costs, related site and utilities work, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Town Council shall determine the scope and particulars of the project and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be expended on the project as so modified or reduced.

Section 2. That the Town issue bonds or notes, in an amount not to exceed FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,345,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town of Groton. The Town does hereby covenant and agree with the holders of the bonds or notes and all notes issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds or notes that in each year while any such bonds or notes are outstanding, it will levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all taxable properties within the Town in an amount sufficient, with such other funds of the Town as shall be available for such purpose, to pay the interest and principal on the bonds or notes as the same become due and payable.

Section 3. That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,345,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town, payable as provided in Section 2. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

Section 4. That the Town Council shall determine the amount of bonds or notes authorized by Section 2 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance shall determine the amount of any temporary notes authorized by Section 3 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to determine the dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust

companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

Section 5. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings, including qualified tax credit bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this ordinance if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

Section 6. That the Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

Section 7. That the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds or notes to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Section 8. This ordinance shall become effective only if it has been adopted by vote of not less than five (5) members of the Town Council and by the Representative Town Meeting, and only if the appropriation set forth in Section 1 and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance said appropriation have been approved by the voters at referendum in accordance with Sections 5.5.5.1 and 9.13 of the Town Charter, and notice of passage has been published in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter.

Refer to RTM under Rule 6.5.3.

**A motion was made by Rep. Pasqualini Jr., seconded by Rep. Hedrick, that this matter be Adopted.**

*Members discussed the effect that accreditation of the police facility would have on insurance costs; the length of time necessary to achieve accreditation; and the increase in debt service if this project is approved. Many members suggested that maintenance of Town facilities and replacement of equipment could be accomplished as CIP projects without incurring the expenses of bonding. Concerns were expressed about the tax increase if this is approved.*

*The Manager stated that historically neither the Town Council nor the RTM has been increasing the Capital Reserve Account sufficiently to fund long-term facility maintenance or equipment replacement. He feels that this ordinance would address all the items necessary to update the police facility to 21st century standards.*

*Safety and liability issues were discussed. Several members concurred that voters should have the opportunity to vote on this at referendum; if defeated, the Town could scale back the project or create several CIP's to address the individual items included in the ordinance. The Town Manager noted that some of the items in the ordinance were CIP's eliminated during budget deliberations.*

*The Town Manager clarified that the police study is not a consolidation report. It was undertaken to identify shortfalls in public safety issues among the three departments. He stated that any*

*movement toward consolidation of the police departments must be initiated by the City of Groton or Groton Long Point.*

*A MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION was made by Rep. Pasqualini, seconded by Rep. Aument.*

*The vote to move question carried 23 in favor, 5 opposed. (Opposed: Reps. DeMatto, Gardner, Massett, Swindell, and Ambroise.)*

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 24 - Moderator Ambroise, Rep. Adams, Rep. Aument, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Cerf, Rep. Collins, Rep. Conley, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Hatcher, Rep. Heede, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Massett, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Ryley, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Waselik and Rep. Watrous  
Opposed: 4 - Rep. Gardner, Rep. Hedrick, Rep. Pasqualini Jr. and Rep. Swindell

## **6. PUBLIC WORKS - Chairman Collins**

*Chairman Collins read the minutes of the meeting held on August 14, 2013. (Minutes are attached to the permanent record.)*

*Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Collins, seconded by Rep. Hedrick and so voted unanimously.*

**2013-0191**

### **Adoption of Ordinance for Flanders Road Utilities Expansion**

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$9,900,000 FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE EXPANSION OF WATER SERVICE AND SEWER SERVICE TO THE MIDDLE SEGMENT AND LOWER SEGMENT OF THE FLANDERS ROAD AREA AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

Section 1. That the sum of NINE MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$9,900,000) is appropriated for costs related to the design and construction of the expansion of water service (estimated cost \$2,900,000) and sewer service (estimated cost \$7,000,000) to the middle segment and lower segment of the Flanders Road area, substantially as shown in the Flanders Road Study dated January 2013. The appropriation may be spent for design and construction costs, acquisition and installation costs, acquisition costs of land and easements, equipment, materials, construction management, site improvements, engineering fees, design and bidding services, testing and inspection costs, traffic control, related site and utilities work, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Town Council shall determine the scope and particulars of the project and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be expended on the project as so modified or reduced.

Section 2. That the Town issue bonds, notes or obligations, in an amount not to exceed NINE MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$9,900,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-259, Section 7-369 and Sections 22a-475 to 22a-483 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town of Groton. The Town does hereby covenant and agree with the holders of the bonds or notes and all notes issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds or notes that in each year while any such bonds or notes issued to finance the non-sewer portion of the project are outstanding, it will levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all taxable properties within the Town in an amount sufficient, with such other funds of the Town as shall be available for such purpose, to pay the interest and principal on such bonds or notes as the same become due and payable. The Town does hereby covenant and agree with the holders of the bonds, notes or obligations and all notes and interim funding obligations

issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds, notes or obligations that in each year while any such bonds, notes or obligations issued to finance the sewer portion of the project are outstanding, it will levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all taxable properties within the Town, other than properties within the City of Groton, in an amount sufficient, with such other funds of the Town as shall be available for such purpose, to pay the interest and principal on such bonds, notes or obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 3. That the Town issue and renew temporary notes or interim funding obligations from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds, notes or obligations for the project. The amount of the notes and obligations outstanding at any time shall not exceed NINE MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$9,900,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-264, Section 7-378 or Sections 22a-475 to 22a-483 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes or obligations shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town, payable as provided in Section 2. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a and 7-378b of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378, and the Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 22a-479(c) with respect to any obligations.

Section 4. That the Town Council shall determine the amount of bonds or notes authorized by Section 2 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance shall determine the amount of any temporary notes authorized by Section 3 to be sold. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to determine the dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

Section 5. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings, including qualified tax credit bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this ordinance if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

Section 6. That the Town Manager and the Director of Finance are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds, notes or obligations to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes or obligations.

Section 7. That the Town Manager, on behalf of the Town, is authorized to apply for and accept federal and state grants to finance the sewer portion of the project and state loans to finance the project, and to enter into any grant or loan agreement prescribed by the State. The Town Manager, the Director of Finance and the Water Pollution Control Authority are authorized to take any other

actions necessary to obtain such grants or loans pursuant to Section 22a-479 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended, or to any other present or future legislation, or to implement such grant or loan agreements.

Section 8. That the Water Pollution Control Authority is authorized to construct the sewer portion of the project; to approve design and construction expenditures and any easement acquisition costs incurred for the sewer portion of the project; and to contract with engineers, contractors and others on behalf of the Town for said sewer portion of the project. All such authority is subject to the provisions of Section 1.

Section 9. That the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, the Water Pollution Control Authority and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds or notes or obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Section 10. This ordinance shall become effective only if it has been adopted by vote of not less than five (5) members of the Town Council and by the Representative Town Meeting, and only if the appropriation set forth in Section 1 and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance said appropriation have been approved by the voters at referendum in accordance with Sections 5.5.5.1 and 9.13 of the Town Charter, and notice of passage has been published in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter.

Refer to RTM under Rule 6.5.3.

**A motion was made by Rep. Collins, seconded by Rep. Hedrick, that this matter be Adopted.**

*There was discussion of whether it is appropriate for City residents to vote on the Flanders Road Utilities project, since the City has a separate sewer system and would not be responsible for any of the costs related to the expansion.*

*The Town Manager explained that he feels it is important for the Town to expand the utilities for future economic development. He outlined the potential effect on industrial and residential assessments. He noted that he will report back next month on the decrease in the Mystic Marriott assessment. Mr. Oefinger reported on the success of the airport industrial park and how it has produced economic growth and diversification of the grand list. He feels it is important to act now to further diversify Groton's industrial base and increase the ability to attract businesses and encourage economic growth.*

*Many members suggested that this is a complex financial issue and that citizens should have the right to vote on this ordinance. Several representatives stated that their constituents do not favor increasing taxes now due to the unstable economic times even though they personally see the benefits of this project. Other members do not agree with the theory that having utilities in place will necessarily lead to development. Several members asked if there is information on the number of potential developers that have rejected Groton based on the lack of industrial land that is ready to build.*

*MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION was made by Rep. McDermott, seconded by Rep. Pasqualini.*

*The vote on moving the question carried 25 in favor, 3 opposed. (Opposed: Reps. DeMatto, Swindell, Ambroise.)*

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 14 - Rep. Collins, Rep. Conley, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Heede, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Massett, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Ryley, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swindell and Rep. Waselik  
Opposed: 13 - Moderator Ambroise, Rep. Adams, Rep. Aument, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Cerf, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Gardner, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Hatcher, Rep. Hedrick, Rep. Pasqualini Jr. and Rep. Watrous  
Abstain: 1 - Rep. Merritt

## 7. RULES & PROCEDURES - Chairman Massett

*Chairman Massett read the minutes of the meeting held on July 10, 2013. (Minutes are attached to the permanent record.)*

*Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Massett, seconded by Rep. Hedrick and so voted unanimously.*

### 2013-0174 Review of RTM Rule 8.1 - Personal Interest/Conflict of Interest

#### REVIEW OF RTM RULE 81. - PERSONAL INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A motion was made by Rep. Gardner, seconded by Rep. Aument, to obtain a legal opinion defining what constitutes a conflict of interest in relation to the Town Charter and RTM Rules.

Discussion ensued on the merits of this motion. Members voiced opposition to the costs of an attorney opinion, the broad language of the motion, and the lack of specific examples of conflict of interest violations that may have occurred in votes taken by the RTM. Many comments were made on what members felt constituted a conflict of interest; most felt that disclosure covers most situations. It was noted that when a conflict of interest is suspected, there is a procedure to challenge it at that time. It was noted that several opinions on this subject have been previously provided by the Town Attorney.

The Town Manager suggested that the Town Attorney could be invited to a committee meeting for discussion of this matter.

Rep. Waselik left at 10:00 p.m..

The motion failed by the following vote:

**Votes:** In Favor: 3 - Rep. Aument, Rep. Gardner and Rep. McDermott  
Opposed: 23 - Moderator Ambroise, Rep. Adams, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Collins, Rep. Conley, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Hatcher, Rep. Hedrick, Rep. Heede, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Massett, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Pasqualini Jr., Rep. Ryley, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swindell and Rep. Watrous  
Abstain: 1 - Rep. Cerf  
Non-voting: 1 - Rep. Waselik

A motion was made by Rep. Cerf, seconded by Rep. Aument, to request that the Town Manager query five or six neighboring towns and the Connecticut Conference Municipalities on their definition of conflict of interest.

Rep. Ryley left at 10:05 p.m.

Rep. Hedrick stated that personal disclosure is important, but noted that members are representing the constituents of their district when they vote. Therefore their vote on any matter before the RTM should reflect the interests of the constituents rather than their own view.

The motion failed by the following vote:

**Votes:** In Favor: 4 - Rep. Aument, Rep. Cerf, Rep. Gardner and Rep. Pasqualini Jr.  
Opposed: 22 - Moderator Ambroise, Rep. Adams, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Collins, Rep. Conley, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Driscoll, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Hatcher, Rep. Hedrick, Rep. Heede, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Massett, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swindell and Rep. Watrous  
Non-voting: 2 - Rep. Ryley and Rep. Waselik

This matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action.

### 2013-0175 Review of RTM Rule 6.2.1 - Appointment of Chairs for Standing Committees

REVIEW OF RTM RULE 6.2.1 - APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS FOR STANDING COMMITTEES

**This matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action**

**J. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

*Moderator Ambroise requested that the Town Manager provide an update by department on the FYE2014 budget at the October RTM meeting. He would like the update to provide expenditures to date and identify projected shortfalls based on the approved FYE2014 budget.*

**K. OTHER BUSINESS**

*In response to Rep. Aument, the Town Manager noted that the Town Council will take final action on the Blight Ordinance at its next meeting. The ordinance will then be referred to the RTM.*

*In response to Rep. Hatcher, Mr. Oefinger commented on the recent filing of a class action suit for Groton Long Point assessments. He stated that there is no immediate impact on legal fees, but that any increase in legal fees could result in the need for an additional appropriation in the spring.*

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. was made by Rep. Streeter, seconded by Rep. Barnhart and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the RTM*

*Sally A. Whitney, Assistant Town Clerk*